



The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
December 24, 7:30 pm
Evening Prayer with Carols

Opening Hymn: *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Lyrics at the end

Station at the Creche

V: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us

R: And we have seen his glory

Let us pray: O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Priest: O God, make speed to save us.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.

All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*

O gracious light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,

O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,

O Son of God, O Giver of Life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Psalm 96: 1-9 *Cantate domino*

read by Lector

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; *
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations *
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; *
bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before him.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Lesson: A Reading from the Epistle to Titus

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. *Titus 2:11-14*

Here ends the reading.

Carol: *Away in a Manger*

Lyrics at the end

The Gospel Lesson: A Reading from the Gospel of Luke

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" Here ends the reading. *Luke 2:1-14*

Homily

Anthem: *A Savior from on High*

St. Martin's Choir

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Let us pray:

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before
the great judgment seat of Christ, *We entreat you, O Lord.*

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of The Ever
Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, St. Martin of Tours, and all your saints,
entrusting one another and all our life to Christ, *We entreat you, O Lord.*

The Collects

Priest: Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature
upon him, and to be born [this day] of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been
born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed
by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the
same Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever. *Amen.*

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all
perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus
Christ. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and
give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest
to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the
joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

Carol: *Hymn 111 Silent Night (Light a candle as you sing along. Lyrics at the end)*

The General Thanksgiving (Prayed by all)

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. *Thanks be to God*

Carol: *Joy to the World*

Lyrics at the end

The Grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

Lyrics:

O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels
Refrain: O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light. Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb
Very God, begotten, not created
Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation. Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest
Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning
Jesus, to Thee be glory given. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing
Refrain

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes;
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;

Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for Heaven to live with Thee there.

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night. All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon virgin Mother and Child. Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar; Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night. Son of God, oh, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face. With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth. Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.